



PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

## ALEXANDRIA:

MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 5, 1859.

## Sound Political Opinions.

ALEXANDER B. HAGER, esq., of Annapolis, is the Opposition candidate for Congress, in the Montgomery District in Maryland. From his address to the people of that district, we make the following extract:

"At this time, when the United Opposition in Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Texas, have so signally rebuked the misrule of the Democracy, and when many of its most valued members are withholding their support from the Administration, it surely cannot be expecting too much to hope for similar success in this district, so long the stronghold of the Whigs in Maryland. That the Whigs of this district have finally abandoned those principles which they so ardently cherished, and have embraced those which they and their forefathers so long and conscientiously opposed, is not to be believed. Those principles may have been temporarily laid aside to meet new issues not involved in the present contest, but surely there never was more urgent occasion for re-avowing them than exist at this time. The bankrupt Treasury, the languishing condition of our manufactures and commerce, the gross corruption charged by prominent members of the Democratic party to exist in the Government, the frequent neglect of the last Congress to provide for the pressing wants of the Departments, the constantly repeated interposition of the Presidential veto to defeat judicious plans of admitted public necessity and usefulness, the persistent agitation of the slavery question by the Democratic party, solely for party purposes; the demand of the Executive to be invested with the war-making power, and the party cry for the immediate purchase of Cuba, notwithstanding Spain's refusal to sell and our inability to buy, these, and a host of similar errors of commission and omission, cry aloud for a change of rulers. Unless you have become altogether indifferent to the fate of the Union, it is impossible that such evil courses can command your approval. Why, especially, should those who have ever been Whigs sustain them by their votes?"

The Democratic party will be an admitted minority in the House of Representatives, and you cannot be deluded again by the old story of the importance of choosing one of that party in order to obtain the rights of the State from Congress. The day to most surely have passed when the shibboleth of slavery can persuade you that your own slaveholding neighbors, though children of Maryland, are traitors to their section, because they are opposed to the Democracy, and that the Democratic party is the only faithful guardian of the South. This arrogant claim has been recently urged throughout the Southern States, and the result of the election there proves that our Southern brethren are no longer to be deceived by it. Every agitation of the question of slavery by the Democratic party has resulted injuriously to the South. With the Northern wing of the party it has been encouraged to enable "Northern men with Southern principles," to clutch the spoils of office, while many of its Southern adherents have fomented the agitation with a view to accomplish the dissolution of the Union. A Southerner by birth, myself a slaveholder, and the descendant of slaveholders, nothing could induce me to support either men or measures in the slightest degree unfriendly to the South, but I should always discourage this harmful agitation, whether renewed under the protest of "Congressional intervention" on the one hand, or "squatter sovereignty" on the other. When the South is really attacked in her constitutional rights, her people will know how to rally to her support, without the gratuitous aid of Northern allies who seek to win favor from the South by presenting for her acceptance, specious "snares and delusions." How much stronger would be the present position of the South, if the latest Northern panacea for our troubles, in the language of Senator Hammond, had been "kicked out of the Senate." The business affairs of the country demand the attention of Congress; there has been far too much Congressional President making and the neglect of the public business."

The Washington Constitution, in reply to some remarks of the New York Times, on the "independence" of the press, says:—"For true independence in journalism we have the highest respect; and we repel, with contempt the impudent insinuation that, because a newspaper advocates the cause of a great political party, therefore it cannot be independent. It has frequently been found that those who most loudly boast of their 'independence' are the most ready to be purchased, mollified, or silenced. We are, indeed, requested to look into different journals of the country for examples of the mean suppression of truth, the timorous yet malevolent suggestion of the false, the display of the baser passions of partisanship, without those generous impulses towards a party, a cause and candidates which exude some zeal, in the estimation of the candid and the generous, we would first go to the papers that so noisily talk of their 'independence.'"

The Washington Constitution says that official information has been received at the Department of State, that the treaty, which has been some time pending between the United States and Nicaragua, has been ratified by the latter power, after the omission of the obnoxious clause objected to by this Government.

Despatches have reached the State Department from Mr. Ward, or minister to China, announcing that he should leave Shanghai on the 16th of June, in the steamer Powhatan, for the city of Tientsin, and he expected on his arrival there to find the necessary arrangements ready to enable him to proceed to Peking in order to exchange the ratifications of the treaty with the Chinese Government.

The New York Herald "warns all concerned," that to adopt the plurality rule in the organization of the next House of Representatives, is to throw the power into the hands of the Black Republicans. This is the Herald's opinion!

The King of Sardinia has had his triumphal entry into Milan. It was quite a magnificent affair; of course not equal to the recent fete at Paris.

## The New York Journal of Commerce says:

"Our readers will have noticed the item in the foreign news containing the decision of the British House of Lords in an appeal from the Court of Bankruptcy, as to the right of a holder of a bill of exchange to prove his claim against both drawer and acceptor where the two parties are allied by having common partners. The decision of the lower Court was that the holder could only prove against one, and might select which; this is now confirmed! We do not see the justice of the decision, but it is undoubtedly good law. This will give, it is thought, some advantage to those drawers of exchange in this country whose European correspondents are not partners with them in the business."

The "intensely interesting" articles in the "sensational" newspapers at the North now, setting off with flaming capitals and brilliant italics, are, that "Blondin walks across Niagara again, in the dark; lets off fire works, stands on his head and hangs by his heels"—and that De Lave "goes over the Genessee Falls, eats dinner on the rope, and dips down for a drink." Intensely interesting truly! A couple of mountebanks placing their lives in jeopardy every day in the presence of a gaping crowd!

The Philadelphia Ledger says that Louis Napoleon's policy, is simply the use of the lancet and sponge. He lets blood freely, but has always a sponge ready to wipe up, or obliterate its stains. And the sponge, soft as the velvet of a cat's paw, is constantly exhibited, while the lancet, like her claw, only appears occasionally. The sponge for the coup d'etat, was the adornment of the capital; the sponge for the Austrian war is the amnesty.

We learn from our Georgia contemporaries, that the prospects of the Opposition in that State are daily improving, and that the Opposition candidate for Governor, Mr. Akin, is making a vigorous canvass, and winning golden opinions from all sorts of people.

The Astor Library has been re-opened in New York, enlarged and re-arranged. It now contains some of the most ancient and rare books in the world. This valuable library is, indeed, "a treasury of knowledge."

Daniel Webster said that Davy Crockett paid him (W.) a fine compliment, when he said, "Mr. Webster, I have read your speech on Foot's resolution, and it is the only speech that I ever could read, without having to use a Dictionary."

Virginia is said to have more miles of continuous rail road and connections, than any other State.

We have received the September number of the American Farmer.

Rolling Mills in the South.

Our readers are already aware of the fact that a Rolling Mill, for the manufacture and re-rolling of rails, is now in successful operation at Atlanta, in the State of Georgia.

When this enterprise was commenced, it was regarded as a matter of so much importance as to justify the formal notice of the Southern Commercial Convention. At the meeting of that body in May, 1858, a special committee was appointed to investigate the subject, and to "report all the facts connected with so important an enterprise to our Southern railroads and the iron interests of the South."

The report of that committee is now before us. The report commences with a description of the mill itself. The building is situated just outside of the corporate limits of Atlanta. It is two hundred and fifty feet in length, and fifty feet high. Attached to the mill are six acres of land for offices and other buildings connected with the mill establishment, and for boarding-houses and private residence for the operatives. The capacity of the mill is represented by the committee to be equal to the production of once six or seven hundred permanent population to the town in which it is located.—*Lynchburg Virginian*.

Louis Napoleon's General Amnesty.

PARIS, August 18.—No doubt seems to be entertained that yesterday's amnesty is complete and unlimited in all respects, that it passes the sponge over every past offence, and relieves all persons from the action of the law of public safety, so long as they shall not incur fresh condemnation from the tribunals. The satisfaction it gives is great and general, not only here, but, according to a telegraphic correspondence, among the majority of the exiles in London and Brussels, who are particularly pleased with the prospect of whose, it is said, propose immediately returning to France.

The measure, it appears, extended not only to refugees but to persons suffering banishment in the French penal settlements, and two steamers have started for Algeria and Guiana, in order to bear the good news speedily to the unfortunate men who have at various times been transported thither on account of real or alleged political offences.—*Surprise* was the first emotion excited by this important decree; there was, perhaps, a little want of confidence; but when people had time to reflect on the measure, and to recognize that it was not only one of clemency, but in fact the wisest thing the Emperor could do, any lingering mistrust melted away and was replaced by satisfaction and gratitude. All the Paris papers of any mark are warm in their acknowledgments.

World Correspondence.

The following letter, written in reply to one, calling upon the party for payment of an old note, gives the quietus to an abrupt dun, in the most effective manner we have ever witnessed:

UPPERVILLE, Feb. 9, 1859.—Dear Sir:—Your letter came duly to hand & in reply would say that those old matters are so many a nature and there has also been so many changes that it doth not seem prudent to answer your note definite not knowing whether or not you and your original partners have settled the firm of R. B. A. W. & Co. to such a degree & responsibility whereby you are the proper authorized & duly respectable person authorized by the firm to collect & receive those old arrearages & until that can be fully & legally proven to your satisfaction, I cannot correspond with you.

N. B. I would here state that I have gotten a free & full independent discharge from all debts of such a period of years whereby I am free as the old adage (tom double) consequently I hold & reserve in my own hands the preeminence.

—Warrenton Whig.

## News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

From Fort Buchanan we learn that the United States troops there are suffering extremely from scurvy. The fort is garrisoned by about 200 men, members of different regiments. We learn also from the Colorado River, that scurvy had made its appearance among the men at that station. The camp at Beal's Crossing had a considerable number of soldiers on the sick-list. Rain had fallen in unusual large quantities in the vicinity of the camp, and Gila City, which possesses generally a climate of almost Egyptian drought, was nearly inundated by an unprecedented shower that lasted for four or five hours continuously.

Gov. Sibley, of Minnesota, is in Washington. The object of his present visit is said to be to postpone the land sales in Minnesota till next year, and the President will postpone them. The Democrats will then claim before the people that they have intervened to save their lands from sale, and give them one year more time in which to save their pre-emptions. On this issue they hope to carry the State this fall.

There were fifteen American sea-going vessels reported during the last month as missing, wrecked, or otherwise lost. The list comprises seven ships, two barques, five schooners, and a steam-tug. Of these, three were burnt, nine wrecked, one sunk, one abandoned, and one missing. The total value of the above vessels is estimated at \$225,000, exclusive of their cargoes.

A letter from London says that Mr. T. C. Evans, of New York, who recently went to London to persuade Mr. Dickens to revisit this country on a reading tour, and who offered him most magnificent terms, has not succeeded. Mr. Dickens, it appears, cannot afford at any rate to leave England, ("and 'All the Year Round,'" for the time which his voyage and tour would occupy).

Hon. Oliver J. Morgan, of Louisiana, has presented to Bishop Polk, of that State, the handsome sum of \$40,000, as the foundation of a professorship of agricultural chemistry in the "University of the South." This munificent donation makes up the entire amount of \$500,000, required by the charter for the establishment of the proposed University.

Most of the Madrid journals of the 8th of August, publish articles which protest in violent terms against a declaration made in a Washington newspaper, by Mr. Dodge, the ex-minister of the United States at Madrid, to the effect that Spain, notwithstanding her present reluctance, will end by selling Cuba to the States.

Garibaldi has been elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies, by the town of Stradella, and will henceforth sit amongst the legislators of the sub-Alpine kingdom. A general opinion is prevalent that Garibaldi's brigade will be soon disbanded, and that the General will be placed at the head of the Tuscan army.

A butcher by the name of Gibson was killed in Memphis, last week, by a steer. Two or three head of cattle had been butchered before this steer's turn came—he smelt blood got angry, and as the unfortunate Gibson went to kill him, the animal made a dash and put his horns in the abdomen of Gibson and he died in an hour.

Though Blondin and De Lave the two rope walkers, have not yet broken their necks, an Irishman and an American have, both being spectators of their feats. One fell from a rock at Niagara Falls, and the other tumbled into the Genesee. This is the difference between carelessness and carelessness.

A sad accident occurred at New Rochelle, New York, on Wednesday evening. A sudden squall struck the yacht *Edda* when entering the harbor under full sail, capsizing her and drowning Miss Catharine Waterbury, daughter of Lawrence Waterbury, and her governess, Miss Littlefair.

The Arizona says that George W. Coolbaugh, Superintendent of the Overland Mail Line, between El Paso and Fort Chihuahua, lately absconded with the amount of \$15,000, as near as can be ascertained.

On Saturday week, Henry Durrett was murdered in the upper part of Spotsylvania, by a negro man belonging to Mr. John Coates, of Caroline. The negro was arrested, and is now in Spotsylvania jail. Mr. D. formerly carried the mail between Fredericksburg and Patow's Post-office.

The machinist employed on the Michigan Southern Railroad have struck, and refuse to allow anything but the mail car and engine to run. The cause of the strike is the inability of refusal of the road to pay the back wages of the machinists.

Rev. Thomas Diggs was robbed of \$160, on the night of Monday, August 23d, at a camp-meeting on the Eastville (Va.) Circuit. Fifty dollars of the money had been just raised and paid to him for the benefit of the Missionary Society.

The Cincinnati Times of Thursday, notices the arrest of two men near Salem, Ill., who were caught in the act of throwing a train off the Ohio and Mississippi railroad track at a very dangerous place. Officer Reaney, of Cincinnati, captured them.

The Fredericksburg Christian Banner says—"On last Wednesday and Wednesday night, a deluging rain fell in the Northern Neck of Virginia, and we hope it was a general rain. If so, the corn crop may yet become greatly improved."

The editor of the Kittanning Free Press states that many persons were badly frightened on Sunday night by the auroral display. Some imagined that the world was about to end, and declared that they smell brimstone.

Vice President Breckinridge has written, it is said, a letter declining to be considered a candidate for the Presidency, preferring to be elected to the Senate, as he expects to be, from Kentucky.

Strakosch has failed to secure Piccolomini. She goes to Russia, this winter, at a large figure; but the indefatigable Maurice brings with him (about the 1st of October) the tenor, Fraschini, and a new prima donna.

We learn from our exchanges that the Aurora of Sunday night extended as far south as Alexandria and Washington. We heard of frost on that night in Michigan and Illinois, as well as in the Eastern States.

It is said that Mr. August Belmont drives with outsiders and postillions, having dispensed with the coachman's box in front altogether.

A public meeting is to be held in Hampshire county, Va., in favor of a division of said county.

Manassas Bank notes pass freely in Winchester. The Banks there refused them only for one day.

B. B. Evans, of St. Louis, was fined \$20 and costs, on Tuesday, for touching the hem of a lady's garment.

## Judge John Watson was recently arrested

at Kaytesville, Charlton county, Me., on the charge of having been one of the party who broke open the county safe, about a year and a half ago, and robbed it of some \$5,000. The grand jury of that county indicted him for grand larceny and burglary, and he was required to give bail to the amount of \$2,000. This case attracts a great deal of attention, partly from the fact that the accused is a man of considerable wealth, and at the time the crime was committed, was one of the Judges of the County Court.

The Shiloh Baptist Association met at Zion, Tuesday last. James Broadus, esq., of Culpeper, was made Moderator, Rev. J. N. Fox, Clerk, and Rev. C. George preached the introductory sermon. There is in this Association all the Baptist churches of Green, Madison, Culpeper and Rappahannock counties. They are strong in numbers, wealth and influence. During the past year some 400 addresses were made to the churches and a large amount of funds was contributed to benevolent objects.

The destination of the Great Eastern on her first voyage to this country, is still a matter of doubt. According to our advices by the Africa, however, the offer of Mr. Lever, in behalf of the Company, to charter the Great Eastern for a voyage hither, has been declined. The Jason brings intelligence six hours later than that of the Africa, but whether the previous despatch to the agents of the Galtway line came within that six hours, and related to news obtained during that time or not, is not known.

Some days ago we published an account of the rough style in which a couple of gamblers were ejected from Napoleon, Arkansas, by sundry persons of that meek and Quaker like town. Of the further adventures of these persecuted cavaliers, the Lake Providence Herald furnishes the following hint: "Several of the deserters from Napoleon having called at our town, were promptly served with 'notices to quit,' which service they accepted and 'put.'"

The Worcester Spy learns from a visitor returned from the White Mountains, that on Sunday last, which in this vicinity was unusually clear, the summit of Mount Washington was enveloped in clouds of rain, hail and snow. Parties who ventured to ascend the mountain arrived at the top covered with sleet, and overcame with cold and fatigue. Snow fell, covering the ground and lasting a considerable time.

A German, "half seas over," swam the Ohio, at Wheeling, on Sunday evening last, for a small wager. He accomplished the feat with difficulty, and not being strong enough to come back the same way, and some cruel fellows on the other side retaining his clothes, he started across the suspension bridge *paris naturalis*, and entered Wheeling at a run, driving ermine in wild flight before him.

The New Yorkers pay heavily for the opening and improving of streets in that city. The Journal of Commerce says that the City Comptroller on Thursday paid awards to the amount of \$33,819, to persons whose property was taken for the widening of Reed st., from Broadway to Chatham street. Awards for the same street from Broadway to Washington street, amounting to \$457,354, will be paid on the 6th instant.

The Portage (O.) Sentinel states that a son of Dr. W. M. Prentice, of that town, died recently. The cause of death, upon investigation, was found to have been violent muscular exertion, he having been accustomed, like many other boys, to walking on his hands, standing on his head &c.

The St. John News of Monday, says that the misunderstanding between the Nova Scotia Telegraph Company and the Associated Press has been corrected, and in future the foreign news despatches will come through as they formerly did, without interruption.

A National Opposition.

The Philadelphia North American says:—"We want a National Opposition. A sectional Opposition is doing mischief. The sectional interests demand attention. For years they have been put aside for other and more profitable concerns, until the expenditures have run up nearly to one hundred millions of dollars a year, and corruption and extravagance have invaded almost every department of the government. Upon the basis of a general reform, the Opposition can elect any proper candidate. Upon any narrower or merely selfish platform, the result of 1856 will be repeated, only more disastrously."

It is—Let it be remembered that, in driving off several of the Southern States, the proscriptive policy is recommended by the ultra-Republicans, that is, by the New Republican State, in the party significance of that term. Neither is New Jersey, nor Indiana, nor Connecticut, nor other States which might be named. The Opposition succeeded in all of them by a fusion of the elements hostile to the Administration and its party, and that is the only policy which will put victory beyond doubt in 1860. The rule or ruin interest, which dominated in 1856, and discarded the advice of Pennsylvania, may be able to pack a Convention next year, and it may make a candidate, but it can never make a President."

D. S. Dickinson, of New York.

We believe, and shall contend, that the nominee of the Charleston Convention should be a Southern man, and that justice and policy alike demand that the great body of Democratic States—the stronghold of National Democracy—deserve the compliment of the nomination; and we are proud of the fact that we have in the Southern States able and distinguished statesmen—men of well-balanced intellects and eminent public services—men with the calm dignity and modesty of James Madison, who would, in our wisdom, disregard the national and just wishes of the South, and select for our standard-bearer a sound National Democrat from one of the free States, no selection would afford more enthusiastic delight, and unbounded pleasure than that of Mr. DICKINSON. The Virginia Democracy at Baltimore, in 1852, displayed their admiration for him by casting the electoral vote of the State for him in Convention, and he occupies as high a place in their affections now, as he did then.—*Richmond Examiner*.

Arrest of a Swindler.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Upon the receipt of telegraphic advices, relating to the swindle of young ladies in New York, Captain Goddard laid his plans, and this evening arrested a fellow who says his right name is H. J. Leslie. He is fully identified as being originally from the seed of division of the Patent Office, and married a lady named Hinton, whom he found boarding at the dwelling of Mr. White, the undertaker. He called at Adam's Express Office for the \$2,000, which bear appearance of those described, valued at one thousand or eleven hundred dollars, but, of course, did not obtain them. Leslie at first denied everything, but subsequently declared that he had but eight young ladies, instead of fifteen. After investigation before Justices Goddard and Donn, Leslie was committed to jail for further examination.

Wheat and the Joint-Worm.

Having heard with deep concern that the wheat crop in several counties below Richmond—particularly King William—has fallen far below the usual average in that section, and that the failure is probably attributable to the ravages of the joint-worm, I beg the privilege of submitting through your columns to the Farmers in that region the result of the experience and observation of an intelligent, practical agriculturist—as I know Dr. Meriwether to be—contained in a letter addressed by him to the Editor of the "Southern Planter," in 1854. Previous to that time the county of Dr. M.'s residence had suffered severely from the depredations of the joint-worm, and various expedients for counteracting the destroyer were tried, proved to be ineffectual, and abandoned; but, as the result of experience, the opinion seems to have generally prevailed in favor of early sowing of the earliest varieties of wheat, quickened and assisted in their growth and maturation by the application of highly concentrated manures, as the greatest, if not the only safeguard against this formidable enemy. The liberal use of Patavian Guano, therefore, was resorted to, with what effect, may be learned from the subjoined letter, the perusal of which I will detain the reader from, only to remark: 1st, that the "Phospho-Peruvian Guano" will probably prove equally as effective as the Patavian alone, in counteracting the ravages of the enemy, while the increase of the Phospho-plum of lime—an essential element in perfecting the grain of wheat—is secured by the intimate mixture of the two ingredients; and 2d, that we have in this city, an establishment provided with the most approved machinery for preparing the article in the best manner, and conducted under auspices which entitle it to the entire confidence of the public. Yours, very respectfully,

—Richmond Whig. HENRICO.

The Wheat Crop and its Enemies.

Mr. Editor: Whilst the wheat is "rooting," as our great farmer Rogers used to express its winter growth, let us endeavor to drive into some of the mysteries of this wonderful plant. The chief of these at present is the destroying joint-worm, which has diminished the crop of this and several adjoining counties from 30 to 50 per cent.—Yet, in the midst of it, for the last two years, my crops have been the best I ever made.—Of this fact I will give the reasons, so far as I know, in the hope of throwing some light on this engrossing topic.

A short review of the wheat culture of Virginia may be of interest to our younger brethren, and may illustrate more clearly our present difficulty. In old times, before the Hessian fly, when the wheat was often sowed and ploughed in at the last working of the corn, almost the only limit to the wheat was in the extent and fertility of the land. This success encouraged its cultivation, till the wheat patch, as it was then called, expanded into the wheat field. Then came the fly, so destructive under this system that it was called Hessian, after a ruthless and unprovoked enemy, and erroneously supposed to be brought over by them. The habits of this insect being carefully investigated by Gov. Barbour, Gen. Cooke, and others, showed the danger of too early sowing, and the advantage of grazing and seeding for some time before the wheat was sown. To avoid their fatal deposit of eggs on the blades of wheat, it became the settled policy to sow the wheat some ten days earlier than the first of the fifth of October. This delay of a full month or more from the former usage, besides subjecting the latter part of the crop to the spring attack of the fly, aggravated enormously the danger from rust—the universal enemy to the wheat. The necessity of early ripening to escape the rust, while prevented from early sowing by the fly, led to the trial of every possible variety of wheat, nor is any one kind ever yet decided on as the best. The Mediterranean has at least some ten days earlier, and it may be sown much sooner than the white flint and other standard kinds. Its culture, in spite of many objections, is extending, and of this our crops in this region partly consisted when first attacked by the joint-worm. In the panic occasioned by this dreadful enemy, which has driven some of our farmers off the field, we could not at first say that it spared any kind. But on closer inspection the old proverb proved true—"the devil take the hindmost."

The joint-worm has a certain time to change from its dry state and come forth to work; but if a little before this time the wheat can head, the straw is then too hard for them, and they seek that which is more tender. Their mode of operation is to pierce the outer covering near the joint, and deposit their eggs, which soon hatch and cut off all nourishment from above that point. Upon these facts we base our practice, which is to sow in good time and with the best preparation the earlier kinds of wheat, and push them in every way to the speediest maturity. We begin by the middle of September, or as soon after as we can get sowing for the winter. The first two days of the Mediterranean, then, of one-third early purple straw with it, and finish with the purple straw alone. If any Poland or late wheat at all, it should be sowed early in October on tobacco land, or the most favorable spots as to fertility and exposure. The white may wheat we are now trying, to see if that will not head the enemy. My neighbor, F. K. Nelson, tried his last crop in three ways, and all turned out well. First, prime clover fallow, sowed early in Mediterranean; second, well manured land in the same; and third, the corn field in early purple straw, with guano. These three methods seem likely to succeed. I know of no other. Ordinary fallow or good corn land, may do one hundred pounds of guano to the acre; but two hundred pounds are necessary if the land be poor. The wheat drill with the guano attachment will, I hope, do great things for us and the whole country. A single experiment with it in Fauquier is enough, at least, to attract attention. Three strips of land, sowed side by side, the first, without help, brought fifteen bushels to the acre; the second, with two hundred pounds of guano broadcast, fifteen; and the third, drilled with fifty pounds of guano, twenty bushels. Yours sincerely,

THOS. W. MERIWETHER.

Albemarle, February, 1854.

The Harvest in England.—The London (Aug. 11) correspondent of the National Intelligence, says that the leading subject of interest there at that date was the harvest, which was then very general through the midland and even the northern counties of England, and was nearly completed in the south. There was a prevalent notion that the wheat was affected by mildew, but not to any alarming extent. It was thought that, should the weather continue moderately favorable, the produce would be probably above the average. The sudden and early ripening of the crop had caused an increased demand for labor, and better wages were being given than had been for several years past.

THE POTOMAC RAILROAD.—The Baltimore and Potomac Railroad have in contemplation a change in the Southern terminus of their route. It has heretofore been intended to terminate the road at Smith's Point, opposite Aquia Creek. It is now proposed to make the terminus of the road at a point on the Maryland side of the Potomac, opposite Pope's Creek, in Virginia, and connect by a ferry with a branch of the Virginia Central Railroad; provided authority to construct such branch road can be obtained from the General Assembly of Virginia.—*Wash. Star*.

## John Minor Botts' Plan.

On Thursday evening a committee from the Whig General Committee of this city, of which Hiram Ketchum is chairman, waited upon the Hon. John Minor Botts, at the Astor House, to pay him the respects of the organization they represented. Mr. David Webb was chairman.

The usual compliments being passed, Mr. Webb stated that the committee present were there to give Mr. Botts, in the name of the Whig General Committee, a cordial welcome to New York. They represented the representatives of the old whig party in this city, who still stood firmly by their old principles and old and living leaders. They did not consider the political atmosphere so dark that there was no glimmering of hope, but confidently expected to see, before long, an administration with those principles, held by the leaders of their honored party, in power. The committee they represented was manifesting the right spirit; had begun the fight vigorously, and its influence would soon be felt. Their meetings were largely attended and would very soon be held oftener than at present, when the proceedings would, doubtless, be animating and encouraging. They had already heard from numerous and true of the old whig party, and remembering Mr. Botts as one of the old leaders, would be very glad indeed to hear from him, by getting an expression of his opinion as to matters and things in the political world, knowing his opinion to be valuable and worthy of every consideration. At the same time they expressed their earnest hope that some arrangement might be arrived at, to end with the present administration democratic misgovernment in this country. It was for this object they were fighting, and they believed that eventually their efforts, in connection with those of the other opponents of democracy, would be crowned with success.

Mr. Botts, in reply, thanked the gentlemen of the committee, and through them the body they represented, for the courtesy extended him in paying their welcome visit. They represented an organization of men holding to principles of which he had been a steadfast defender on all occasions—principles eminently just, true and patriotic. He agreed with the committee that the democratic party had too long held the reins of government, and that the sooner it was overthrown the better for the country at large. In order to defeat them at the ensuing Presidential election, however, it was necessary that all shades of the opposition should be cordially united, having in view only the great object, that of rooting out corruption and the steam apparatus of the republic. To unite the opposition was, in his opinion, no very difficult task; not so difficult, at least, that a union could and would be effected with the majority of the people in favor of the overthrow of the administration; union difficulties were easily to be settled, and cordial co-operation North and South secured. This was, he believed, earnestly desired by all the elements of the opposition. He had often heard that the republican party, or members of it, were unwilling to relinquish their distinctive name. This looked rather more like a lack of courage than a desire to fight for the principles of the republic. To unite the opposition was, in his opinion, no very difficult task; not so difficult, at least, that a union could and would be effected with the majority of the people in favor of the overthrow of the administration; union difficulties were easily to be settled, and cordial co-operation North and South secured. 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